

14 December  
2025

Third Sunday  
of Advent

# PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4

## Welcome to Your Father's House!

**Most Rev. Thomas Dowd, D.D.**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie



**Rev. Larry Rymes**  
Pastor of the Pro-Cathedral Parish

### PERMANENT MINISTERS

#### Deacons

Rev. Mr. Rick Hamelin  
Rev. Mr. Donald Shago  
Rev. Mr. Gary Westenenk

#### Diocesan Order of Women

Mrs. Shirley Falconi  
Miss Ruth Godon

### IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph de Viveiros, CR Chaplain, Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic Schools

## Parish Sacraments



**Marriage:** Please pick up a Marriage Information Booklet in the Church Vestibule to review prior to contacting the parish office.

**Anointing the Sick:** Please call the parish office for more information.

**Reconciliation:** 3:00 to 3:45 PM each Saturday.

**Eucharist:** Please see mass schedule published in this bulletin. Call the parish office to arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to visit the sick and shut-in who are unable to attend Mass.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Each Friday from 11:00 am until 12:00 noon.

**Baptism:** Please pick up a Baptism Information Booklet in the Church Vestibule to review prior to contacting the parish office.



The Pro-Cathedral is **wheel chair accessible**. The entrance to the elevator is on Algonquin Avenue. Please enter the vestibule and ring the bell for an attendant. Service available at all weekend Masses. Weekday Masses service available 11:30 AM to 12 Noon.

**Hearing Aid System** is available for use by the hearing impaired. Please ask an Usher or Sacristan to assist you upon entering the church.



### Our Parish Mission Statement:

*We, the members of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption community, believe that we have been called through Baptism to live the Good News of Jesus Christ under the patronage of Mary, our Mother.*

*We accomplish this by proclaiming the Word, celebrating the Sacraments, & reaching out to others.*



(705) 472-3970  
office@procathedral.ca  
www.procathedral.ca  
facebook.com/procathedral



The 3rd Sunday of Advent Year A is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice." This Sunday reminds us that even while we wait, we can be joyful. Advent is a time of hope and preparation. The readings remind us of God's promises and the hope they bring. Isaiah speaks of deserts blooming and the weak gaining strength, while Jesus' miracles show that He is the promised Savior. James encourages us to be patient and hopeful, trusting in God's timing. On this Gaudete Sunday, we are invited to rejoice and prepare our hearts for Christmas, knowing that our Savior is near.

### PRAYER (Light the third candle on your Advent Wreath)

**Heavenly Father, in times of darkness, let Your light shine brightly in our lives. May we find hope and strength in Your presence, knowing that You are always with us. Grant us patience and strength as we wait for the coming of Your Son. May our hope be steadfast and our hearts be filled with joy and anticipation. Amen**



**Winner of the NOVEMBER 2025 Draw of \$562.50  
CECILE ROBERT (Ticket #C-2187)**

**Congratulations!**

Raffle is conducted by the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption, a charity in North Bay, Ontario under License #RAF1438966. Each draw is generated by computer and the winner is chosen randomly. Rafflebox is a government regulated raffle provider.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

### OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday to Thursday	8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday	8:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

### WEEKLY READINGS: 15-21 DECEMBER

Monday	Numbers 24. 2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21. 23-27
Tuesday	Zephaniah 3. 1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21. 28-32
Wednesday	Genesis 49. 2, 8-10; Matthew 1. 1-17
Thursday	Jeremiah 23. 5-8; Matthew 1. 18-24
Friday	Judges 13. 2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1. 5-25
Saturday	Isaiah 7. 10-14; 8.10d; Luke 26-38
Sunday	Isaiah 7. 10-14; Romans 1. 1-7; Matthew 1. 18-24

**What's Happening at the Cathedral This Week**  
**Monday to Sunday, 15—21 December**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday	All Day	Church	Organ Tuning
Wednesday	1:30 PM	Church	Algonquin School Mass
Thursday	1:30 PM	Church	SJ-SH School Mass
	6:30 PM	Church	Choir—Call office for Information
Saturday	12:30 PM	Sacristy	Catholic Girls League Exec.
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sacristy	Children's Liturgy of the Word
	12:00 PM	Church	Decorating Committee



**Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament**  
**Each Friday 11 AM - NOON**



Thank you to the Pro-Cathedral Catholic Women's League for their generous donation to the Roof Campaign in the amount of \$725.00 and to the Catholic Charities Food Bank in the amount of \$600.00. The donations were presented at the recent CWL Christmas Dinner.



A HUGE THANK YOU to Andrew and Casandra Walton, parishioners and owners of Northwood Window & Door Centre who matched the November Roof Loose Collection and donated \$1,112.20

**Sunday Collection - 07 December**

<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
<b>\$4,776.80</b>	<b>\$1,392.20</b>

<b>ROOF CAMPAIGN REPORT to 07 December</b>	
Roof Campaign Balance	\$260,810.42
Sunday, 07 December Collection	
Roof Loose	\$476.85
28 Received Donations	\$8,078.50
Orchard Gift Card Sales	\$155.00
31 Cards X \$5.00 Profit	Profit to Date: \$4,245.00
November Loose Matching Thank you to Northwood!	\$1,112.20
<b>CAMPAIGN BALANCE</b>	<b>\$269,632.97</b>

**Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday, 16 December - Weekday in Advent**

Intention of Robert Manary - The Carey Family  
 Tony Boulet - Margaret Lafontaine  
 Claire Durand - Nola Goulaie and Family

12:05 PM

**Wednesday, 17 December: Weekday in Advent**

Intention of Yvon Cadrian - Jackie Cadrian  
 Judy Kelly-Manary - Robert Manary  
 For Family Members of Joe and Louise Defonzo

12:05 PM

**Thursday, 18 December: Weekday in Advent**

Intention of Kara Levesque - Richard Levesque  
 Intention of Kristy and Nicholas Beaulieu - Karen Beaulieu  
 Joseph Kelly - The Carey Family

12:05 PM

**Friday, 19 December: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Paul Smith - Mary Lou Smith and Family  
 Sheila Levesque - Richard Levesque  
 Jeanne Hodgins - Philip Paquette

12:05 PM

**Saturday, 20 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

In Thanksgiving - A Parishioner  
 Elizabeth Dufresne - Joanne Dufresne  
 Sam and Lillian Veraldi - Myrtle Veraldi

4:00 PM

**Sunday, 21 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9:00 AM** Iris Vendetti - Terry & Denyse Vendetti, Paul & Nadine Condon  
 Lloyd Voisin - The Voisin Family  
 Beatriz Barrios - The Barrios Family

**11:00 AM** Simon Boulanger - Suzanne Boulanger  
 Intention of Noreen Kelly - The Carey Family  
 Intention of the Parishioners - Father Larry Rymes

**PARISH DONATIONS**

Parish Contribution Envelopes for 2026 are now in the Church. We ask that you please consider pre-authorized methods for your contributions this year as it allows us to have a steady stream of income, even when you can not attend Mass.

Thank you!

**McGUINN**  
 FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

591 Cassells St.,  
 North Bay, ON P1B 3Z8  
**705-472-8520**

123 Railway St.,  
 Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 3B1  
**705-753-6038**

[www.meguintyfuneralhome.com](http://www.meguintyfuneralhome.com)

Thank you!

**Whispering Pines**  
 Funeral Home Ltd.  
 and Crematorium  
 15 King St., Powassan, ON P0H 1Z9  
**705-724-9734**  
[www.whisperingpinesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.whisperingpinesfuneralhome.ca)

Thank you to McGuinty Funeral Home for offering to match the December Loose Roof Collection to be taken the weekend of December 27 & 28 Please be generous when donating your loose change on this weekend!



We are looking for a January and February donator. You can agree to match the donations received or offer to match up to a certain amount. Donations can be acknowledged or remain anonymous.

**Turn Debt into Hope  
Development and Peace  
End Unjust Debts**

SIGN THE  
PETITION

**Public, private and multilateral creditors must cancel or reduce debts, and political leaders must support a multilateral framework for debt resolution. This would be a transformative shift for billions of people, moving us from a model focused on profit and enriching creditors to one that prioritizes a just society, centering people and the planet.**

**48,147 signatures received! Canadian Goal OBJECTIVE by January 2026—100,000 signatures**

Your signature makes a difference! Visit: [devp.org/debt](http://devp.org/debt) for more information and to sign the petition

## **Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule**

**The Nativity of the Lord  
Christmas Eve, 24 December  
5:00 PM, 8:00 PM**



**Christmas Day, 25 December  
11:00 AM**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God  
Thursday, 01 January 2026 at 11:00 AM**



### **REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR**

**Don't forget to bring your non-perishable food items to church next weekend - the last Sunday of Advent (December 21). You can also bring donations to the parish office throughout the week.**

Catholic Charities Food Bank is located right here at the Pro-Cathedral with distribution on Tuesday mornings.

**Get your December tickets**

[www.rafflebox.ca/  
raffle/procathedral](http://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/procathedral)



**If you don't have a computer but do have a credit card, the parish office can help you purchase your tickets each month. Call or email us for more information!**

## **Catholic Women's League**



Thank you to everyone who came out to last Wednesday's final General Gathering and Christmas Dinner for 2025. A delicious dinner was provided by Savoir Faire and it was a fun evening spent with our sisters from St. Peter the Apostle Church. The celebration ended with a wonderful, prayerful, and funny at times, prayer service organized by Helen Ermel.

Helen would like to thank the cast and crew who performed the nativity scene who did an awesome and amazing job. Well done everyone!



### **Christmas Memorial Flowers & Decorations**

A beautiful way to remember loved ones during this holy season is to donate memorial flowers and decorations in their memory. Your donation will help decorate the church during the Christmas Season.

Pre-printed envelopes are available for your donation at the entrance to the church. Please fill out the requested information as neat as possible (printing is best!). Include your donation and return the envelope to the office or in the weekly collection. A listing of names will be printed in the Christmas Sunday Bulletin.

**Please have your names to the parish office by Friday, December 19.**

**Remember your loved ones this Christmas and give glory to the Lord by helping to decorate for this beautiful season!**

**Get your December tickets by the 31st!**



## Proposed Amendment to Bill C-9

A letter is available at the back of the church and online under NEWS that opposes Bill C-9 in Canadian Parliament, specifically the repealing of the Criminal Code section that will lift protections for religious groups. This will leave individuals, clergy, educators and more at risk of being potentially prosecuted for hate speech when proclaiming the truths of our faith.

The letter is written in a way that you can just print and use.

*The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops have also sent their written opposition to the bill, and have asked parishioners to consider doing the same.* This letter makes it easier for all to do so.

**GRADE 2 & UP**

**THE PRO-CATHEDRAL IS NOW REGISTERING CHILDREN FOR**

**FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST COMMUNION**

**THE first MEETING**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026**

**PRO-CATHEDRAL PARISH HALL**

**10:00 AM**

For baptized children in grade 2 and up.

**REGISTER by visiting our website ([procathedral.ca](http://procathedral.ca)) under "Sacraments" then select Eucharist or Reconciliation. Return the e-form to [office@procathedral.ca](mailto:office@procathedral.ca) or you can print a copy and drop off to parish office or in the collection basket.**

**St. Vincent de Paul Advent Confessions**  
**December 15, 9:30–Noon, 1–5pm, 6:30–8pm**

**Knights of Columbus Council 12106 have Religious Christmas cards for sale.**

**To order and have your cards delivered, please call Roy Malette at 705-477-4084.**

**REJOICE Christ Is Born**



## SHALOM PLACE presents the O! Antiphons.

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that highlight a title for the Messiah referred to in the prophecy of Isaiah and are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat at Vespers during the Octave before Christmas.

Each day from **December 17 to December 23**, Shalom Place will celebrate the O Antiphons with a presentation on its website - <https://www.shalomplace.ca/>

Join us to not only bring intensity to your Advent preparation, but to bring it to a joyful conclusion as we anticipate **Emmanuel, God-with-us**.

An introduction to the O Antiphons will be posted on the website on December 16.

Registration is not necessary. Just log on to the website and follow the links.



### The Good Samaritan Corner

The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) has released information about the Cold Weather Programming in Nipissing District.

#### Shelter Services

Go to Northern Pines Shelter offered by Crisis Centre of North Bay (CCNB) at 590 Chippewa Street, open 24 hours a day and accessed through the Crisis Centre North Bay. The Northern Pines Shelter provides access to basic needs with day programming, 24 on-site beds and 10 off-site beds and will be open until April 30, 2026.

Check for a bed in person or by calling **705-316-1052**. If beds are full, some supports are still available at Northern Pines.

Four Elms Shelter will continue to be provided through CCNB at Four Elms and can be accessed as capacity allows. Call the Crisis Centre of North Bay at **705-474-1031** for more information.

#### District-Wide Unsheltered Outreach Services

True Self Debwendizwin Peer Outreach Support Team (POST)

POST services provide district-wide, unsheltered response, 7 days a week. True Self will respond to locations identified by community members to assess and provide support to those on site as required. True Self also visits unsheltered locations on an ongoing basis to provide basic needs supplies and connect individuals to services.

- Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm
- Saturday and Sunday 10am to 6pm
- For after-hours calls please leave a message indicating the location of the site and the number of people living there. Call True Self at 705-498-9482.

DNSSAB has an extreme cold weather protocol. When Environment Canada forecasts temperatures of -15C or -20C with the wind chill in Nipissing District, the Extreme Cold Weather Policy is put into effect. The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit will issue a Weather Alert, which will trigger the cap on shelter overflow beds to be lifted, increasing shelter capacity for those living unsheltered in the district.

Additional resources can be found at <https://www.dnssab.ca/housing-services/homelessness/> and at <https://www.dnssab.ca/housing-services/homelessness-prevention/>